

IN HONOR OF BOB CONNERS UPON  
HIS RETIREMENT FROM 610-WTVN

## HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2011*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Bob Connors upon his retirement from 610-WTVN Columbus.

The often transient nature of a career in radio remains a hard truth for those who choose this field. The industry sometimes forces these men and women to relocate to different stations and towns across the country. These individuals come and go, sometimes without developing a strong connection with a community. Over the years, however, one voice has remained a mainstay in Columbus, representing the pinnacle of morning radio hosting. As a proud central Ohioan and occasional guest on his show, I am deeply honored to show my sincere appreciation for one of the greatest radio hosts in this city's history, Bob Connors.

Bob came to Columbus from Pittsburgh over 40 years ago and since then has brought acclaim to and instilled pride in the central Ohio community. His morning show, Bob Connors in the Morning became one of the most popular shows in the area, attracting listeners from miles around. Known as the "Morning Monarch" for his longstanding service to the station, Bob eloquently presented national and local news, along with sports, weather and traffic reports.

For years he delivered the news to millions of citizens. His on-air disposition and the consistency of his presence made waking up to his voice a pleasurable morning routine for an entire generation. I fondly remember listening to his show when I was growing up and how honored I was each time I was asked to speak with him on-air.

While he has retired from hosting the show, Bob's legacy and uplifting presence will resonate throughout our community for years to come. I am proud to wish him the best of luck as he moves on to the next exciting phase in his life. He not only remains one of the city's most recognizable voices, he also is one of Columbus's favorite sons.

## SYNTHETIC DRUG CONTROL ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

## HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 7, 2011*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose H.R. 1254, the "Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2011."

I share the concerns that supporters of this bill have about the sale of synthetic drugs that are determined to be harmful. The issue here is what process should be used to determine whether a drug is harmful and should be banned. I oppose this bill because it circumvents the established process for scheduling controlled substances as illegal for any uses without proper scientific review. This bill short-circuits that process and substitutes the less-informed judgment of Congress for the

more considered view of scientists and experts.

We already have a process for banning drugs temporarily on an emergency basis. Indeed, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has temporarily prohibited the sale or manufacture of many of the compounds banned in this bill as more in-depth scientific reviews are conducted. I also support Maryland's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's decision to ban the sale of many of these drugs in the State. I believe that the temporary ban by the DEA and the State bans of these drugs are sufficient at this point to protect our society from the harms caused by these synthetic drugs. Congress should only act to add these drugs to the list of Schedule I controlled substances after the process laid out in the Controlled Substance Act is completed.

The process established in the Controlled Substance Act requires that the Attorney General request from the Secretary of Health and Human Services "a scientific and medical evaluation, and his recommendations, as to whether such drug or other substances should be so controlled. . . ." This process is important for many reasons and should not be circumvented by this bill. Without proper scientific review this bill could create significant hurdles for medical research of cures and treatments for various diseases. During the bill mark up in the Judiciary Committee, statements from medical researchers were submitted stating that this bill could hamper their ability to determine lawful uses of these substances by making them illegal to possess. R. Gil Kerlikowske, the Director of the Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), stated that these drugs are dangerous, but acknowledged that there is "a lack of sufficient data regarding the prevalence of bath salt stimulant drugs." Additionally, the penalties for possessing and distributing Schedule I drugs are serious. Adding over 35 additional substances to the list of Schedule I drugs, for which people can be incarcerated, should not be taken lightly by Congress.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this bill.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2011*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, December 8, I was unavoidably detained in Illinois attending to district/constituent matters and missed recorded votes for H. Res. 487, H.R. 1633, the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act, and H.R. 1254, the Synthetic Drug Control Act.

If I had been present, I would have recorded my vote as a nay for rollcall vote 902, nay for rollcall vote 903, nay for rollcall vote 904, and nay for rollcall vote 905.

As I have confirmed in a number of meetings and correspondence, I do not support efforts by the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate fine and coarse particulate matter or "farm dust". While the EPA exists to protect the health of Americans and the stability of our environment, I am concerned by overly burdensome regulations and the impact they have on our smaller businesses and family

farms. With that said, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson has explicitly stated that she has no intention of revising any regulations on "farm dust". H.R. 1633 is another waste of the House's time and energy, as the clock continues to tick down on much more important issues like Unemployment Insurance and the payroll tax holiday.

For that reason, had I been present I would have recorded my vote as yea for rollcall vote 906, yea for rollcall vote 907, yea for rollcall vote 908, yea for rollcall vote 909, yea for rollcall vote 910, yea for rollcall vote 911 and nay for rollcall vote 912.

## CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

## HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2011*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Eric Thomas Pugnet for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Eric has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

## TRIBUTE TO FORMER PUBLIC PRINTER ROBERT W. HOUK

## HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2011*

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Public Printer of the United States Robert W. Houk, who passed away unexpectedly on Sunday.

Mr. Houk, a Michigan native who later moved to Shelby, Ohio, was a graduate of Michigan State University and Wayne State University. He was a proud U.S. Army veteran, rising to the rank of first lieutenant after serving throughout Europe during World War II and serving stateside during the Korean Conflict.

The management and leadership skills he learned in the Army were put to good use during his long and impressive career in the business world. He worked for the Ford Motor Company and at Detroit's Rotary Manifold before cofounding UFORMA/Shelby Business Forms in 1966. For more than two decades, he served as UFORMA's president and chief executive officer.

Mr. Houk's leadership in the printing industry was widely recognized by his peers. He was tapped as chairman of the board of International Business Forms Industries in 1976 and as chairman of the Printing Industries of America in 1987. Business Forms and Systems magazine named him Man of the Year in 1980.

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush appointed Mr. Houk as the 22nd Public Printer of